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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR  | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/790,604      | 03/01/2004  | Robert W. Johnson JR. | 9060-221            | 9585             |

20792 7590 06/12/2006

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| EXAMINER |
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DEBERADINIS, ROBERT L

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2836

DATE MAILED: 06/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Applicati n N .

10/790,604

Applicant(s)

JOHNSON ET AL.

Examin r

Robert DeBeradinis

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE f this communication appears on the cover sh et with th correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 March 2004.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/1/04.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by FUJII 5,616,968

Regarding claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8.

FUJII teaches a plurality of segment loading indicators configured to be electrically coupled to respective load segment outputs of a power supply, each of the segment loading indicators operative to provide an indication of a loading of the associated load segment output.

Regarding claim 9.

FUJII teaches power distribution unit (power modules interconnected).

Regarding claims 9, 10, 11.

FUJII teaches overload indicator and fail indicator.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4, 7, 12-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over FUJII 5,616,968 in view of EWING 7,043,543 in further view of ROWAN 4,884,809.

Regarding claims 4, 7, 12, 13.

FUJII disclose the apparatus of claim 10.

FUJII does not disclose wherein the a least one of the segment loading indicators is operative to provide respective color displays for respective load levels.

EWING teaches load segment power outputs on an electrical power distribution plug strip wherein the micro controller provides status information of each segment including software programmable thresholds with indicators indicating when the thresholds are exceeded (col. 9, lines 10-15, col. 10, lines 19-41).

ROWAN teaches color diodes displaying the intensity of a function with the color of the diode illuminated.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of this invention to have modified the diode display indicating the overload and fail condition of the expandable AC power device segment to include the color diode display to indicate the load level on the segment to continuously monitor the load fluctuations on the segment.

Regarding claims 14, 15.

EWING teaches a current detector for each segment (figure 6).

Regarding claim 16.

The Examiner takes official notice. The means by which current is detected in a circuit is well known in the art. The use of a current resistor is just one means by which current is measured or detected in a circuit. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of this invention to detect current using a current sensing resistor to produce a voltage proportional to current to sense the level of current flowing in the circuit.

Regarding claims 17-37.

FUJII teaches a power supply module connectably connected to form an uninterruptible power unit supplying a connector to supply individual loads.

EWING teaches an electrical power distribution plug strip comprising a long thin plug strip body with several power outlet plugs distributed along the length of one face.

ROWAN teaches color diodes displaying the intensity of a function with the color of the diode illuminated.

The above references does not teach a housing having first and second panels.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the housing to have a first and second panel mounted into a housing for this is merely a rearrangement of parts.

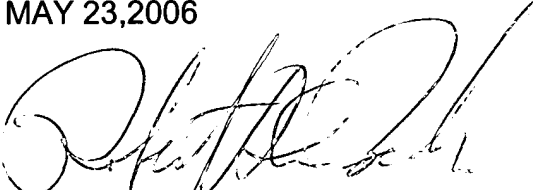
Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert L. DeBeradinis whose number is (571) 272-2049. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

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If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus, can be reached on (571) 272-2058. The Fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

RLD

MAY 23, 2006



ROBERT L. DEBERADINIS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER